

**REMARKS**

Claims 1, 2, 4 and 8-13 currently appear in this application. The Office Action of October 5, 2007, has been carefully studied. These claims define novel and unobvious subject matter under Sections 102 and 103 of 35 U.S.C., and therefore should be allowed. Applicant respectfully requests favorable reconsideration, entry of the present amendment, and formal allowance of the claims.

Claims 1, 2 and 4-12 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention. This rejection is respectfully traversed.

Claims 1 and 11 have been amended to correct the spelling of xonotlite.

Claims 2 and 12 have been amended to recited that the calcium silicate, in addition to the fire starting agent, contains wood pulp fiber. Support for this amendment can be found in the specification as filed at page 4, paragraph 0018, "A particularly useful calcium silicate material consists of a xonotlite crystal structure containing about 0.5% pulp wood fibers, about 0.5-1% textile grade glass fibers, and about 1% by weight of bentonite clay." It is clear that the calcium

silicate contains, in addition to the fire starting agent, bentonite clay and wood pulp.

Claim 4 has been amended to insert commas after "wax" and "spirits."

Claims 9 and 10 have been amended to depend from new claim 13, which provides antecedent support for the "cylindrical container."

It is noted that the prior art made of record and not relied upon is merely considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

In view of the above, it is respectfully submitted that the claims are now in condition for allowance, and favorable action thereon is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

BROWDY AND NEIMARK, P.L.L.C.  
Attorneys for Applicant

By: /Anne M. Kornbau/  
Anne M. Kornbau  
Registration No. 25,884

AMK:srd  
Telephone No.: (202) 628-5197  
Facsimile No.: (202) 737-3528  
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